

For immediate release
Fred Gaskins | fgaskins@hampton.gov | 757-727-6191
22 Lincoln Street | Hampton, VA 23669

Youth Commission will hold forums for Council, School Board candidates

April 12, 2016 - Hampton's young people are invited to come ask questions and meet the candidates when the Hampton Youth Commission holds a special forum for City Council elections on Wednesday, April 20, and another forum for School Board elections on Monday April 25.

Voters go to the polls on May 3 to choose a mayor and four members of City Council, including one person to fill an unexpired term. They will also consider candidates for the school board.

Youth Commission member Virgil Thompson II said the forums - billed as "by youth for youth" - are designed to introduce the candidates to the city's young people and to give them an "opportunity to physically communicate with candidates."

The Hampton Youth Commission is comprised of 20-30 high school students from the city who are appointed by City Council with the goal of improving the way young people engage with the city and city leadership. Supported by the City's Community Development Department and Neighborhood Services Division, the Commission meets three Mondays per month.

The forum for mayor and Council candidates will be held Wednesday, April 20, from 6-8 p.m. at the city's Performing Arts Center, 300 Butler Farm Road. The forum for School Board candidates will be held Monday, April 25, from 6-8 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center.

Go <u>online</u> for more information. To submit questions before the forums are held, visit <u>www.facebook.com/hamptonyouthcommission</u> or <u>www.Twitter.com/HamptonYIG</u>